

rate without doing what we did—that is, fouling the environment and then cleaning it up—Mr. Kono remembers—I remember the first time I went to Tokyo over 20 years ago, people wore masks riding their bicycles around. And now the air there is cleaner than it is in my hometown in Arkansas.

What is the difference now? It is not just a national issue. If you foul the atmosphere and then you later clean it up, the greenhouse gases are still up there, and they'll be there for 100 years, warming the climate.

Now, we do not have a right to ask anybody to give up economic growth. But we do have a right to say, if we're prepared to help you finance a different path to growth, and we can prove to you—and you accept, on the evidence—that your growth will be faster, not smaller, that you'll have more good jobs, more new technology, a broader base for your economy, then I do believe we ought to have those kind of environmental standards. And we ought to do it in a voluntary way with available technologies. But we ought to put environment at the core of our trade concerns.

Now I don't know if I've persuaded any of you about any of this. But I know one thing: this is a better world than it would have been if our forebears hadn't done this for the last 50 years. If we're going to go into the next 50 years, we have to recognize that we're in a very different environment. We're in a total information society, where information has already been globalized, and citizens all over the world have been empowered. And they are knocking on the door here, saying, "Let us in and listen to us. This is not an elite process anymore. This is a process we want to be heard in."

So I implore you, let's continue to make progress on all the issues where clearly we can. Let's open the process, and listen to people even when we don't agree with them. We might learn something, and they'll feel that they've been part of a legitimate process. And let's continue to find ways to prove that the quality of life of ordinary citizens in every country can be lifted, including basic labor standards and an advance on the environmental front.

If we do this, then 50 years from now the people who will be sitting in all these chairs will be able to have the same feelings about you that Mr. Moore articulated our feelings for the World War II generation.

Thank you very much, and welcome again.

NOTE: the President spoke at 3:05 p.m. in the Spanish Room at the Four Seasons Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Ambassador Susan G. Esserman, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative; Mike Moore, Director-General, World Trade Organization; Romano Prodi, President, European Commission; and Minister of Foreign Affairs Yohei Kono of Japan. The President also referred to GSP, the Generalized System of Preferences; and Executive Order 13141 of November 16, 1999 (64 FR 63169). A portion of these remarks could not be verified because the tape was incomplete.

## Radio Remarks on World AIDS Day

*December 1, 1999*

Since the beginning of the AIDS pandemic, more than 50 million men, women, and children worldwide have been infected with the HIV virus. Each day, 16,000 more become infected, half of whom are young people under the age of 25.

And while we've made great strides in treating AIDS here at home, there is much more that needs to be done, particularly in the developing world, where AIDS poses our greatest challenge.

Today, on World AIDS Day, and every day, we must join together as a global community to stem the tide of new infection, to care for those who are sick, and to continue our quest for a vaccine and a cure.

NOTE: The President's remarks were recorded at approximately 10 a.m. on November 29 in the Roosevelt Room at the White House for later broadcast. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 30 but was embargoed for release until 12 noon on December 1. These remarks were also made available on the White House Press Office Radio Actuality Line.

**Executive Order 13143—Amending Executive Order 10173, as Amended, Prescribing Regulations Relating to the Safeguarding of Vessels, Harbors, Ports, and Waterfront Facilities of the United States**

*December 1, 1999*

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including 50 U.S.C. 191, I hereby prescribe the following amendment to the regulations prescribed by Executive Order 10173 of October 18, 1950, as amended, which regulations constitute Part 6, Subchapter A, Chapter I, Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations:

Section 6.01–4 is amended to read as follows:

§ 6.01–4 *Waterfront facility*. “Waterfront facility,” as used in this part, means all piers, wharves, docks, or similar structures to which vessels may be secured and naval yards, stations, and installations, including ranges; areas of land, water, or land and water under and in immediate proximity to them; buildings on them or contiguous to them and equipment and materials on or in them.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
December 1, 1999.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:42 a.m., December 3, 1999]

NOTE: This Executive order was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on December 2, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on December 6.

**Remarks on Signing the International Labor Organization Convention on the Prohibition and Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Seattle**

*December 2, 1999*

Thank you, Secretary Herman; Mr. Samovia, thank you for your leadership; John Sweeney, Ambassador Tom Niles; all the Members of Congress here; Governor Locke; I would like to begin—I have to make a brief

statement about Ireland, but before I do, just to illustrate the depth of support here, I'd like to ask all the Members of Congress who are here to stand and be recognized, and thank them for their help. Thank you.

***Northern Ireland Peace Process***

Before I make my statement about this important convention, I'd like to say a few words about the truly remarkable and historic events taking place today in Northern Ireland. Eighteen months ago today the Good Friday agreement was signed with the promise of a future of peace and hope. Today the promise is being realized. The people of Northern Ireland now have the power to shape their own destiny and choose their own future. Democratic government by and for all the people of Northern Ireland is now replacing suspicion, fear, and violence. It is now possible to believe that the day of the gun and the bomb are, in fact, over.

There are many leaders who deserve special tribute for their contributions, but I would like to mention especially David Trimble and John Taylor, John Hume and Seamus Mallon, Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness, John Alderdice, Monica McWilliams, David Ervine and Gary McMichael and so many others.

I would also like to thank Prime Minister Blair, Prime Minister Ahern, their predecessors, John Major, John Bruton, Albert Reynolds. I thank Sir John de Chastelain for his work. I thank the special envoys to Northern Ireland, Ms. Mowlam and Mr. Mandelson, for the work they have done. And especially I thank our great American leader there, George Mitchell, whose patience, commitment, and conviction were essential to making this day happen.

The Good Friday agreement must continue to be implemented in full, in word and in spirit. The United States must continue and will continue to stand with all those who are unequivocally committed to the pursuit of peace and justice and democracy in Northern Ireland. This is our common responsibility to the children there, whose future is the best reason for all that has been done.

Let me say that the United States is the home of the largest Irish diaspora in the world. Many of us claim Irish heritage. For